The mover is included in that Select Committee. I heard a complaint that the land-holder's interests were not represented in the committee and I think that we will do well to include the Jenmi Member Mr. Ashtamoorthi Nambudiripad.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Sir, I move that the names of Messrs Ibrahim, K. S. Panickar and Iyyu also be added to the Select Committee.

Motion put and carried.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I move that the Select Committee may be directed to report before the 1st of Meenam.

Motion put and carried

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 p.m. and reassembled at 2-30 p.m. with the Hon'ble President in the Chair

The Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill—Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Sir, I move that the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* I second it.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* The Government adopt the same position with regard to this Bill as we adopted in the case of the Bill moved by Mr. Eachara Menon.

Motion put and carried

Secretary to the Legislative Council: The title of the Bill is the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill.

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* I move that the Bill be referred to the same Select Committee with these additional members, namely, the mover of the Bill and Mr. K. Narayana Menon.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* The report may be submitted before the 1st of Meenam.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill—Mr. K. Narayana Menon

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I second it.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Sir, a like Bill was introduced in this House by the Hon'ble Member, the then Member for Planters Mr. V. J. Mathai during the Budget Session of 1118 in August and it was referred to a Select Committee. Subsequent to that the Hon'ble Member ceased to be a Member of this House and the Bill has lapsed. The present Bill that I seek to introduce in this Council is on the same lines as the one introduced by the then Member for Planters. I also propose, if the House is pleased to allow the Bill to be read in Council, to refer the Bill to the same Select Committee subject, of course, to the exception of those members who are not available and to substitute others in their places. With regard to the object of this Bill and the purpose which the Bill is intended to serve, I have only to add a few words over and above what has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It has been held by our High Court in 6 Cochin Law Journal 527 as follows with regard to the specific question whether the High Court has powers to issue a writ:—

"On the question whether the High Court has jurisdiction to issue the writ, their Lordships did not express any opinion as the question could not be fully and elaborately argued on account of exigencies of time. Since on the merits the petition was liable to be dismissed, there was no necessity also to decide the question of jurisdiction."

But there was an earlier occasion when the then Chief Court considered this aspect of the question in 19 Cochin. It has been held in that case that "There is no statutory provision investing the Chief Court with jurisdiction to entertain independent original petitions for issue of Writs of Mandamus. The Chief Court does not possess any such jurisdiction independently of statute also".

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